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CLASSIFICATION		25X1	
COUNTRY	Soviet Occupied European Territories and the Soviet Union		
TOPIC	Order of Battle Situation according to Information Obtained from 5 November to 10 December 1949		
EVALUATION	25X1	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
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DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	13 December 1949
REFERENCES			
PAGES	9	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	25X1
REMARKS			

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25X1 1. Over-all Situation in the Soviet-occupied Countries of Europe

a. The over-all situation of the Soviet Occupation Forces in Europe did not undergo any essential changes as compared with a previous report +.

b. The situation in those areas on which the most information is available (Soviet Zone of Germany and Austria) is characterized by the completion of virtually all maneuvers in the last days of October 1949 and by the return of most units to their previous military posts.

c. Information received during the last five weeks does not indicate that the Soviet Occupation Forces in Europe were reinforced by new units from the Soviet Union. The personnel strength of the units in the Soviet Zone of Germany was considerably increased by new recruits arriving in the early Fall of 1949, as stated in previous reports.

d. The former estimate on the strength and organization of Soviet troops in Poland and Polish-occupied eastern Germany was revised on the basis of a deserter's report transmitted by higher headquarters. The deserter's statements will be a valuable basis for the evaluation of future information.

2. Soviet Zone of Germany

a. General

(1) The information received between 5 November and 10 December 1949 confirmed the general situation of the Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany up to late November 1949.

(2) More than 40 units were either confirmed or tentatively

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☒ DECLASSIFIED

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identified by precise data contained in reports received up to 10 December 1949 (see para 2,b).

(3) Annexes 1 and 2 give detailed data on the Soviet Order of Battle Germany as of mid-November 1949.

b. Order of Battle Highlights

The following units in the Soviet Zone of Germany were either
[redacted]
[redacted] between 5 November and 10
December 1949:

(1) GHQ Units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOFG).

56th Motor Trans Regt [redacted] in KRAMPNITZ, until 21 October 1949

367th Gds SP Arty Regt [redacted] in RATHENOW, until 21 October 1949

(2) Eighth Gds Army

372d AT Arty Regt [redacted] in ALLENBURG, until 10 October 1949

47th Gun Arty Regt [redacted] in WEIMAR, until 14 June 1949

257th Motor Trans Bn [redacted] in WEIMAR, until 14 June 1949

Hq 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div [redacted] in RUDOLSTADT until 5 November 1949

117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt [redacted] in LEININGEN-HILDBURGHAUSEN until 19 October 1949

54th Gds How Arty Regt [redacted] in HALLÉ until 29 October 1949

(3) Third Shock Army

136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt [redacted] in BURG, until 4 October 1949

63rd Gds Mecz Regt [redacted] in ZOSSEN-WULFSDORF until 12 October 1949

Hq IX Mtz Rifle Corps [redacted] in SCHLIERIN until end of October 1949

Hq 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div [redacted] in SCHLIERIN until 21 October 1949

199th Gds Arty Regt [redacted] in WISMAR until end of October 1949

115th How Arty Regt [redacted] in SCHLIERIN until 21 October 1949

Hq 18th Mecz Div [redacted] in PARCHEM until 20 September 1949

1049th SP Arty Regt [redacted] in LUDWIGSLUST until early October 1949

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25X1 120th Mtl Bn [] in PARCHIM until 15 August 1949

25X1 (4) First Gds Mecz Army

25X1 40th Gds Tank Regt [] in RIOTESCH until 20 June 1949

25X1 (5) Second Gds Mecz Army

25X1 Hq 9th Gds Tank Div [] in MUESTELITZ until 10 October 1949

Hq 12th Gds Tank Div, in NEURUPPIN until October 1949

35th Mecz Regt [] in DOEBERITZ until 20 September 1949

(6) Third Gds Mecz Army (Cadre)

25X1 47th Gds Mecz Regt (Cadre) [] in JUELZBOG until mid-September 1949

25X1 Hq 6th Gds Tank Div (Cadre) [] in WITTENBERG until early November 1949

25X1 51st Gds Tank Regt (Cadre) [] in WITTENBERG until early November 1949

25X1 53rd Gds Tank Regt (Cadre) [] in WITTENBERG area until 26 October 1949

25X1 54th Gds Tank Regt (Cadre) [] in ROUSLAU-ZENBOS area until 22 October 1949

? No. (440th Gds ?) Rocket Bn (Cadre), in KOTTEN until October 1949

? No (22d Gds ?) Mtz Rifle Regt (Cadre), in WITTENBERG until early November 1949

? No (145th Gds ?) Sig Bn (Cadre), in WITTENBERG until early July 1949

? No 120th Gds ?) Engr Bn (Cadre), in WITTENBERG until early July 1949

? No (439th Gds ?) Rocket Bn (Cadre), in WITTENBERG until early July 1949

25X1 Hq 9th Mecz Div (Cadre) [] (?), in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

25X1 71st Mecz Regt (Cadre) [] in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

25X1 1719th AAA Regt (Cadre), in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

25X1 692d Arty Regt (Cadre) [] in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

? No (999th ?) Sig Bn (Cadre), in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

? No (441st ?) Rocket Bn (Cadre), in COTTBUS until 5 November 1949

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(7) Fourth Gds Mecz Army (Cadre)

Army Hq in EBERSWALDE until 21 October 1949

26th Gds Mecz Regt (Cadre) [] in BAD SAAROW or
FRANKFURT/Oder until 7 November 1949

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468th Gds Mort Regt (Cadre) [] in BAD SAAROW or
FRANKFURT/Oder until 19 October 1949

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Hq 25th Tank Div (Cadre) [] in GRATZBURG until
31 October 1949

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63rd Gds Tank Regt (Cadre) [] in KRAMPNITZ until
4 October 1949

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248th Gds Mort Bn (Cadre) [] in KRAMPNITZ until
4 October 1949.

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(8) Units whose superior headquarters is unknown.

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10th Trophy Brig [] in ANHABERG or DRES-
DEN area until summer of 1949

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118th MVD Regt, [] in HALLE, MAGDEBURG and MERSEBURG
until end of September 1949.c. Maneuvers:(1) Available information indicates that the Soviet fall
maneuvers were conducted in the individual army areas in
October 1949.

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[] some of these maneuvers were controlled by the indi-
vidual army headquarters, with elements of all component di-
visions participating. It is still not known whether the
Soviets held large-scale maneuvers with whole divisions of dif-
ferent armies participating. The assumption that, according
to vague information, Soviet troops from Poland and Polish-
occupied Germany may have participated in maneuvers in the
Soviet Zone of Germany has not been confirmed. There are
indications that some command post exercises were conducted
during the maneuver period.

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(2) The extent of the major maneuvers varied in the indi-
vidual army areas. The maneuvers held in western Thuringia
in October 1949 encompassed most of the component units of
the four Eighth Gds Army divisions, but one of the four divi-
sions (7th Gds Mecz Div (Cadre)) of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army
(Cadre) detached only a few elements to the 4th Gds Mecz Army
(Cadre) maneuvers in the TEMPLIN area. There is a general im-
pression that the maneuver activity of each of the two cadre
armies equalled in intensity that of each of the four other
armies.

(3) The previously known maneuver areas were again confirmed.

(a) The WEISSHAUSEN area was for the first time identified
as a training ground (for special exercises ?) of units of
the Third Gds Mecz Army (Cadre).(b) A summarizing study on all training areas used by Soviet
troops in 1949 will be submitted by the end of the year. This
report will also revise the overlay map and a list attached
to two previous reports +, ++.

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(4) Most Soviet units have been back in their former military posts since early November 1949. The few observed changes of military posts have no essential bearing on the over-all situation.

(5) With the maneuvers completed the fighting quality of the Soviet units in the Soviet Zone of Germany is considered exceptionally high.

d. Personnel:

(1) The recruits who arrived in the early Spring of 1949 (majority of 1928 class) are believed to have participated in the maneuvers of the units to which they were assigned. On the other hand, it is assumed that most of the recruits who arrived in the late Summer of 1949 (part of 1928 class, majority 1929) were assigned to special training units and underwent individual training and training at squad level at military posts.

(2) No recent information is available on the demobilization of older personnel. It is assumed that many older troops are now being shipped to the Soviet Union for discharge (in November and December 1949).

(3) In case the repatriation of troops to be discharged has not started, the present personnel strength of the Soviet Occupation Forces is considered the highest since the Fall of 1947.

25X1 (4) [REDACTED] the fact that the majority of recruits leaving the Soviet Union in the late Summer of 1949 arrived at military posts in Brandenburg indicate that the divisions of the two cadre armies (Third and Fourth Gds Mecz Armies (Cadre)) may, by now, have approximately the same personnel strength as the divisions of the other armies. However, it is possible that the contingents of recruits received by the cadre divisions in the Spring and Summer of 1949 may have varied.

25X1 e. [REDACTED]

25X1 (1) Most units (divisions and independent GHQ units) in the Soviet Zone of Germany were confirmed up to the end of November 1949 [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

f. Rail Traffic Conditions

(1) The rail traffic situation, after considerably improving during the summer months, has again deteriorated. The unusually high number of trains awaiting dispatch (on 23 November 1949 a total of 153, including 105 for transit to Poland) and the assembly of a reserve of seven thousand freight cars of all types exhausts the available parking space and restricts the operations required for a smooth handling of traffic.

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(2) A relatively large number of trains was operated on behalf of the Soviet Occupation Power from August to October 1949 because of the intensified maneuver activity of the troops.

(a) [] table of troop trains []

Month:

Number of troop
trains identified

June
July
August
September
October

31
32
69
27
13

(x) Considerably more troop trains were reported. The figure indicates only the number of troop trains which was positively identified []

g. Supply Situation:

Information received on Soviet supply installations in the Soviet Zone of Germany between 5 November and 10 December 1949 will be compiled in another report.

h. MVD Units

Information of the last five weeks does not indicate any essential change in the disposition of MVD/MGB units in the Soviet Zone of Germany. []

1. Soviet Zone German Police

(1) Following the establishment of the Soviet Zone German Government, the para-military Soviet Zone German police was reorganized under the Verwaltung fuer Schulung (Department of Training & Indoctrination) of the new Ministry of the Interior. The department is headed by Wilhelm Zaisser, former Minister of the Interior of Saxony-Anhalt.

(2) The units of the para-military police are designated as police schools, with each school having about a thousand men.

(3) About 50 police schools have so far been established. The Soviet Zone para-military police is estimated at fifty to sixty thousand at present.

(4) This police category, being centrally assigned to the Berlin government, must not be confused with the essentially stronger regular police subordinated to the police departments of the individual Soviet Zone Laender. The regular police is of less military value and is primarily assigned to technical police duty. It includes a large contingent of women police.

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Chance information on Soviet troops in Austria, obtained in November 1949, confirms the previous Order of Battle situation. The Soviet Occupation Forces under the (Central Group of Forces ?) headquarters in Baden near Vienna, still including the 17th Gds Mecz Div in western Hungary, were not reinforced by any new units during the Summer and Fall of 1949, according to available information. In the late Summer of 1949, the units only received new recruits who, like the recruits who arrived in the Soviet Zone of Germany, are believed to belong to the 1929 class.

b. Training

The training of the Soviet troops in Austria and western Hungary ended with the completion of the maneuvers about the end of October or beginning of November 1949. The training of recruits who arrived in the late Summer of 1949 will be intensified until the start of the winter maneuvers. Information of mid-November 1949 indicates that training units presumably also will be stationed in Doellersheim during the winter month.

c. Quartering Areas

According to available information, all units returned to their former military posts upon the completion of maneuvers. *

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4. Hungary**a. Situation in Western Hungary**

The 17th Gds Mecz Div, subordinate to the Baden headquarters, returned to western Hungary from the Varpalota-Haymasker training area during the last days of October 1949. Information on military posts in western Hungary indicates that they were occupied in early November 1949 as they were before the maneuver period. Rumors that Soviet troops from western Hungary were shifted to the Yugoslov border have not been verified.

b. Situation in Eastern Hungary

No recent information is available on the concentration of Soviet troops along the Yugoslav-Hungarian border between the Danube and the Tisza Rivers which was observed in September 1949. Reports from Zahony on rail movements from the Soviet Union to Hungary and vice versa indicate that the Soviet troops in eastern Hungary were at least not decisively reinforced in October 1949.

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Information emanating from Rumania is not sufficient for an estimate of the situation of Soviet troops in Rumania as of October and November 1949. It is considered possible that elements of two armored divisions previously stationed in southeastern Rumania may have returned to their former military posts at the end of the maneuver period.

6.

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b. Available information now indicates that the Soviet forces in Silesia and Pomerania are probably organized as follows:

(1) Silesia

(a) Hq Northern Group of Forces in Liegnitz.

The Hq Sixty-Fifth Army (designated Seventh Mecz Army by other US agencies) which was also assumed to be located in Silesia may have been absorbed by the Hq Northern Group of Forces, or vice-versa.

(b) 20th Tank Div in the Oppeln area.

(c) 22th (?) Necz Div in the Sagan area.

(d) 65 (?) AAA Div in the area south of Liegnitz (?)

(2) Pomerania

(a) 26th Gds Mecz Div in the Koeslin-Belgard area.

(b) ? No Mtz Rifle Div (?) in western Pomerania.

It is considered possible that the Soviet forces in Pomerania, which presumably include some GHQ units, may be subordinate to a headquarters of their own (army corps headquarters ?)

c. The successor of Marshal Rokosovski as CinC of the Northern Group of Forces is not known. As CinC of the Polish Armed Forces Rokosovski will not officially retain his previous appointment, although he will undoubtedly remain the military key figure in Soviet occupied eastern Europe.

7. Soviet Union Proper

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[redacted] a unit in Insterburg (East Prussia)

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[redacted] According to wartime records [redacted] the 22d Airborne Gds Rifle Regt of the 8th Pervomaisk Airborne Gds Rifle Div. The division

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was probably committed under the Thirty-Fifth Army in the Far East at the end of the war. Since newspaper dispatches repeatedly indicated that airborne troops are stationed in East Prussia, it is considered possible that the 8th Airborne Gds Rifle Div may be in East Prussia.

b. Marschal K.A. Meretskov was relieved as CinC of the Moscow MD by Genpolk Artyemyev, according to Soviet newspaper dispatches of 6 November 1949. Genpolk Artyemyev was CinC of the Moscow MD up to 1947. He was later carried as CinC of Ground Forces in the Moscow MD.

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